

Dear members of the Environment Committee,

We are writing to you to ask for your support of S.B. 249, "An Act Concerning the Remediation of the Raymark Superfund Site in Stratford."

SaveStratford.org has been actively involved in the Raymark Superfund remediation process since August 2007. We have advocated from day one that the best long term cost effective solution for addressing the Toxic Raymark Waste issue in Stratford is for the removal of all or as much of the waste from town as possible. This position is based on the following facts:

1. Removal of the waste completely eliminates the long term health hazards posed by this material
2. Removal of the waste eliminates the long term (and ever increasing) costs of ongoing O&M
3. Removal of the waste lifts the burden of paying for long term O&M from the property owner and/or the State of CT
4. Removal of the waste lifts the stigma of the property being labeled a "Superfund site" and frees up the owner to obtain bank loans, and utilize his/her property without the restrictions of ELUR's or ARAR's
5. Removal of the waste enables the commercial properties to be used to their fullest potential and therefore contributes to economic development and revitalization in the community which also benefits the state's tax rolls

In 2008 we presented not one, but five different proposals outlining the remediation of the remaining Raymark Superfund Properties using \$21 Million dollars of available funds. Sadly, that amount of money is inadequate to properly address or even begin to remediate what equates to a \$250-\$300 Million dollar problem. Despite those challenges, SaveStratford has continued its research into new and different remediation technologies and methods that could be used to effectively address the Toxic Raymark Waste. One such technology that is currently available for use could prove to be both cost effective and beneficial to cleaning up the remaining sites in Stratford.

If this bill becomes law, it could go a long way help with the remediation of the remaining multiple Raymark Superfund sites within the Town of Stratford. It would also lend itself to further exploring the newer technologies available for remediating hazardous waste throughout the state of CT.

We urge you to consider supporting this legislation to help the CT State DEP and USEPA finish the job they started in Stratford twenty (20) years ago and remediate the remaining properties.

Should you have any questions or need any additional information please visit the "Critical Reading" page of our website at – www.SaveStratford.org or contact me at 203-243-7404.

On behalf of the members of SaveStratford.org, thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Tom Smith

SaveStratford.org

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